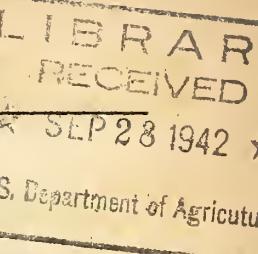


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WARTIME WORK OF STATE EXTENSION SERVICES

F2W26

(Digested From Reports of State Extension Directors)

Summary No. 19

July 18, 1942

ALABAMA (July 13).--Community and neighborhood leadership system being expanded; all counties expected to be fully organized by August 1.

Project of home-made machinery developed to help farmers save labor and increase production. Plans for wagon-box lime and fertilizer spreader, auto-axle lime, fertilizer, and seed spreader, and car-axle sweetpotato shredder made available to farmers through county agents. Farm machinery repair program successful as shown by sellouts on repair parts and overtime work by all repair shops. Many farmers reconditioning their abandoned farm shops and doing own repair work.

Increased demand for Grade A milk has resulted in converting many Grade B dairy barns to Grade A barns. Help given farmers in this work. Small granaries being constructed to take care of increased production cover crop and pasture seeds, and small grain.

As an educational aid to encourage farmers to grow fall and winter gardens, set of 45 colored slides on this subject prepared and sent each county. Being used in community and neighborhood meetings with splendid results.

ARKANSAS (July 1).--Emphasis for June placed on leadership training of more than 12,000 Minutemen in all phases subject matter connected with wartime program; held 641 training meetings attended by 6,025 leaders.

Minutemen enrolled an additional 4,878 families in the Food-for-Victory campaign, raising the total to 135,495.

Method demonstrations given in grading and packaging at 197 meetings attended by 3,193; marketing problems discussed at 140 meetings, attendance 4,051; and 225 organized groups with 7,627 members assisted with marketing problems.

Home demonstration agents concentrating efforts on consumer interest and nutrition. Attended nutrition committee meetings at which they discussed wartime nutrition, balanced diets, food preservation, methods to conserve sugar, food preservation schools, price ceilings, nutrition classes, and school lunches. 118 cooking schools under way, enrollment 1,728; 68 nutrition classes, enrollment 1715; 65 information centers, visited by 2,343 persons. Assisted with hot-lunch programs 18 schools serving 1,765 children.

Farm machinery care and repair discussed 46 meetings before 950 farmers. Scrap material amounting to 6,022 tons collected and sold by farm families during June. War production goals discussed at 807 meetings attended by 15,080.

82,500 4-H Club members carrying on Food-for-Victory campaign, assisting in salvage, sale of bonds and stamps, Red Cross and Civilian Defense activities.

HAWAII (July 6).--During past 2 weeks director spent much time in finding warehouse space in which to store heavy arrivals food and feed. Available warehouses, schools, and vacant buildings used for storage. Supplies being moved to off-islands as rapidly as possible. Assisting Office Price Administration in arriving at maximum price schedules which will take into account peculiar conditions affecting values in this combat area.

Horticulturist engaged in handling transfer large supply agricultural seed, brought in by U. S. Engineers and cooperated with Controller of Civilian Medical Supplies in dissemination agricultural chemicals for insect and plant-disease control.

Economist assisted in salvaging and distributing surplus Army produce to civilian population.

Animal husbandman has issued new retail and wholesale prices for sale of island pork. Now working to get forest reserve land opened for grazing beef cattle during emergency, devising new prices for sale imported pork and beef, working out distribution and sale of FSCC beef to beef importers.

Agents furthering campaign for increased backyard production rabbits and ducks.

County agents continue to assist military and civilian defense authorities in gasoline rationing, agricultural-poison control, tire rationing, and food production and administration. Home-garden visits made to promote summer plantings. Fertilizer placements and success on planting stressed. 75,000 vegetable seedlings distributed during period February to May.

Home demonstration agents directed efforts to increased preservation of local fruits and fruit juices.

MICHIGAN (July 9).--"Wartime Problems of Michigan Farmers," theme of county agent summer school held first week July. Manual prepared by college staff members and representatives Federal and State agencies, dealing with problems, used as textbook for study and basis for discussion. Emphasis was on practices and policies which affect food production and aid farmers in reaching production goals.

Priorities for farm structures being applied for through county war boards, with agents and specialists aiding in ascertaining need and advising on construction. In one area where nearly 400 structures were blown down in storm plans for remodeling and rebuilding being supplied by agents.

U. S. Navy sought a supply of 1,000,000 pounds milkweed floss for inner linings of life jackets. County agents of North Michigan organizing campaign to supply this amount floss and deliver it to processing plant to be located at Petoskey.

Each county has a fire control committee made up of representatives of the USDA War Board, county defense council, State Department Conservation, school commissioners, and others. Survey form supplied schools for making fire hazard survey

on each farm. Each farm furnished folder showing practices to be followed to reduce fire hazards. County officials (game wardens) act as county rural fire leaders and demonstrate fire-fighting equipment.

Price-control program presented all extension workers at State and district meetings. County campaigns largely completed. Follow-up material to be made available when needed.

General increase in gardens in both rural and town areas. Town gardens promoted through local defense councils, farm gardens through Extension Service, and Extension supplies informational material.

Campaign for sales bonds and stamps continued. One county reported quota \$7,700 and pledges totaling \$22,000; another county having 2,799 farms reported 2,800 pledges.

MINNESOTA (July 1).--All interested rural organizations enlisted in program to reduce losses from farm fires. Study made of communities with successful fire-fighting systems, information to be relayed all communities. Statements prepared on "Family Organization and Fire Protection," "Farm Equipment Check List," "Rural Fire Protection."

Combined town and country support enlisted in county mass meetings for cost-of-living campaign. Neighborhood leaders serving in key role. Information includes newspaper articles, radio transcriptions for all rural area radio stations, distribution 75,000 pamphlets, "Inflation Breeds Farm Distress," to rural people.

Trained leaders carrying information on canning, storage, drying, freezing, etc., to local meetings all counties. Goal is to use or store all Victory Garden produce.

Neighborhood leader plan completed with approximately 25,000 leaders and township supervisory committee members ready for action. Leaders to get handbook of instruction and twice-a-month letter to keep them informed on war programs. Wartime emergency duties to be stressed.

Cooperating with AAA and war boards in meeting storage crisis for 1942 grain crop. Pamphlet, "Storing the 1942 Wheat Crop," made available, and information given on building priorities and emergency building procedure. Easily constructed wood bins and granaries recommended.

Agents working with creamery and livestock groups in taking stock of local cream routes and hauling situations. Urging restricted service, pooling, elimination of duplication.

Farmers advised to harvest own legume and grass seed to avoid possible shortage 1943.

4-H Clubs assisting in rubber and scrap-iron salvage; fat campaign ready to go, with Extension helping to organize full cooperation rural people.

NEW HAMPSHIRE (July 1).--Neighborhood-leader system completed with 5,000 leaders, men and women, now serving. Among first jobs handled by leaders were scrap rubber drive, and passing out of sugar-for-canning applications. Weekly summary sheet "Rural Briefs - War Adjustments" sent each neighborhood leader. Rural families sent first monthly news letter "One Neighbor - To Another" presenting plan for neighborhood-leader system, its need, and need for working together. Certificates of appointment for neighborhood leaders printed for presentation during summer.

Scrap-rubber drive opened with telephone hook-up of 9 county offices with State office. County agents were assembled with their county war boards members, while Director outlined plan and discussed it with agents over the wire. State governor joined in conversation.

Cooperating with OPA in making information and aid available rural people. Special radio program on neighborhood-leadership plan and sugar-for-canning system prepared and given over two stations, with representative, extension representative, and woman leader taking part.

Canning demonstrations continued in rural areas and in many cities. Methods of canning with less sugar stressed in meetings, publications, news stories, and radio programs. Distribution of nutrition charts in 7 different languages continued.

Evening garden talks by horticulturist drew large groups of gardeners to neighborhood gatherings.

Labor still short; Volunteer Land Corps workers, high-school boys, and others filling some gaps.

NEBRASKA (July 1).--Latest reports on Victory garden projects show 95,287 gardens being grown. Conservation of garden products through canning and freezing now under way.

Special effort being made to train Victory captains, fire wardens, and neighborhood leaders for the various emergency programs where intensive organization work has been completed.

TENNESSEE (July 1).--Rapid progress being made by 12,000 Victory Community Committeemen and agents in acquainting all farm families with program to control cost of living and other emergency programs through community and neighborhood meetings and personal visits. Reports indicate 175,000 of 247,000 farmers of State contacted up to June 30, and all farmers will be reached by July 15.

Total of 201,504 farm families enrolled in home food supply program in which each family strives to produce at least 75 percent of foods needed for well-balanced, healthful diet. Variety of educational literature to aid families in reaching this goal prepared and distributed.

Farm and home machinery and equipment repair meetings and demonstrations for farm leaders, agricultural teachers, 4-H Club members, and machinery and equipment dealers held in practically all counties.

Many thousands tons scrap metal and rubber collected from farms by committee-men and 4-H members working in cooperation with agents. Plans made for fats collection.

Victory Committeemen secured pledges for purchase of over \$3,000,000 annually in war bonds and stamps.

Agents, working with Victory Committeemen, making survey of available doctors in rural communities.

Enrollment in 4-H Clubs largest in history, with 77,080 members. All club work centered on production essential foods, and other war programs. Of total enrollment, 26,157 have garden projects, and 24,027 poultry projects totaling over 1,000,000 chicks.

"Tennessee Victory Committee News," 4-page printed publication, to be distributed early July, and issued quarterly thereafter with special editions as need demands. Publication will contain official news and information for committeemen to pass on to their neighbors.

New materials issued include two-color poster, "America Depends on the Farmer -- A Farmer's Creed"; cartoon economic leaflet, "Farmers Wise and Otherwise"; four leaflets, "The Homemakers Covenant for Saving, Simplifying, and Serving During War Emergency," "Wartime Care of Clothing," "Care of Home Equipment," "Drying Fruits and Vegetables."

